

# KC DX NEWS

AB0X-EDITOR

KCDXC Website: <http://www.kcdxclub.com/>

July 2018

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**NEXT KCDXC MEETING: July 23:**

Our May meeting is on **July 23**, at JOCO Library at 6PM on 87<sup>th</sup>. Our program will be about the military Woolen-Weber arrays used by the Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard. They were referred to as "Elephant cages". Most, if not all, have been dismantled or demolished as modern communications have made them obsolete. The program will be followed by the famous Pie Eating Contest after the KCDXC meeting.

**W0GJ EXPLAINS ABORTED BOUVENT DXPEDITION!**

The KCDXC was honored to host W0GJ, at our June Meeting. Glenn gave an outstanding presentation that was done in his usual witty and entertaining style. He explained the hardships and difficult events that led up to the aborted mission of the recent Bouvet DXpedition. W0GJ compared the DXpedition to the old movie "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."

W0GJ explained that the Bouvet Team was loaded with talent and experience. They obviously were the "the Good."

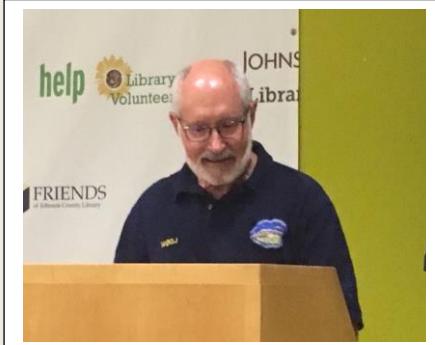
However, there were things they could not control, like the WX and the sea. These were "the Bad."

The poorly equipped ship, the Betanzos, and crew were "the Ugly", and were not vetted accurately.

They sat off the coast of Bouvet for several days but could not get a break in the WX to make safe landings on the island.

The two photos below on page 3 show how close they were to Bouvet, but were unable to safely make landings. W0GJ explained there were calm, sunny openings in the WX, but they only lasted a few short hours.

Continued on page 3...



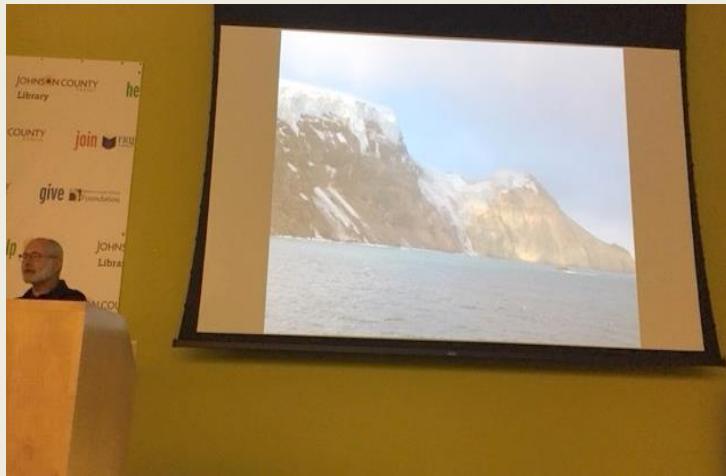
## KCDXC DXCC HONOR ROLL

Call	Mixed	CW	Phone	RTTY	IOTA	160	6 M DXCC	DX Challenge
K0CS	<b>357</b>	320	352			233	85	2377
N0XA	<b>356</b>	353	355	<b>312</b>		315	85	<b>3066(S.K.)</b>
AB0X	<b>357</b>	353	349	<b>230</b>		221	21	2280
W0JLC	<b>353</b>	351	331			102		
N0RB	<b>352</b>	346	350				23	1806
K0CA	<b>350</b>	349	348	<b>324</b>		103		2624
N0CWR	<b>349</b>	348	349	<b>312</b>	<b>860</b>	179	35	2816
K0HQW	<b>349</b>	347	333			33		1352
NX0I	349	347	346	<b>241</b>	253	<b>207</b>		2440
K3PA	349	347	344	<b>314</b>		152	36	2673
KS0DX	347	318	347	<b>129</b>	<b>360</b>			2218
K4SV	<b>346</b>	340	344	<b>337</b>		<b>301</b>	87	2852
AC0A	348	318	348		<b>838</b>		15	2223
K0VXU	346	333	327	<b>246</b>	172	<b>136</b>	2	2236
K0GY	<b>344</b>	340	344	<b>277</b>			5	2300
KB0X	<b>336</b>							
W0QQ	333	<b>205</b>	331	<b>112</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>17</b>		1348
K0THN	<b>329</b>	314	284		<b>179</b>	<b>1</b>		1849
KE5BR	<b>330</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>79</b>				742
WA0WOF	<b>326</b>							
K4SX	<b>326</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>146</b>		<b>52</b>		1617
W0FS	<b>322</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>295</b>		<b>657</b>	<b>181</b>		1770
W0MB	<b>322</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1</b>		1163
K0AP	<b>316</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>657</b>			1968
AA0MZ	<b>309</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>20</b>	1825
AC0C	<b>302</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2</b>	1822
KG0UA	<b>283</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>116</b>			<b>4</b>		
NS0D	<b>263</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>130</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	833
W0XE	<b>247</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>14</b>				887
W0DR	<b>220</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	
N9GB	<b>203</b>							
KS0AA	<b>172</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>154</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>507</b>
KY0F	<b>140</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>140</b>				<b>1</b>	
AA0LV	<b>112</b>							
WD0SRI	<b>102</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>55</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>102</b>
KR0CK	<b>57</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>53</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>

\*Red listing indicates Top of the Honor Roll in that respective class. **Totals are with deletions.**

NOTE: When changes of DXCC totals are sent in to me, they are immediately updated in the next month here in the newsletter. Please only one update a month.

## W0GJ & BOUVET continued:



Below on the pic on the left shows how calm the seas were for short periods. On the right, Glenn is shown on the deck of the Betanzos.



This time W0GJ said the Bad and the Ugly won out, but don't count the team out just yet!

**See K0THN Mintues for more info on Bouvet below:**



**June 25, 2018**

**Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes**

**Carmack Community Room, Central Resource Library**

**Overland Park, KS**

The June meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order by President Russ Woirhaye, K0VXU at 6:00 pm CDT (June 25, 2018 - 2300UTC).

Agenda -

- Greeting and Introduction of Guests
- DXing and Contesting
- Dave Fischer, W7FB, Hippity Hop Propagation KC to Bouvet (Presented by K0VXU)
- Glenn Johnson, W0GJ Bouvet Adventure

#### Introductions -

We introduced ourselves. About eight guests were recognized but not individually. Several mentioned that they heard about the special presenter via Larry's List.

#### DXing and Contesting

##### DXing for July

Based on NG3K website: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Highlights reported were OJ0Y Market Reef, KH1/KH7Z Baker Is., 4K4K Azerbaijan, P29RR Papua New Guinea, FP/KV1J St. Pierre & Miquelon, A25A Botswana and V6J Micronesia

##### Contesting for July

Based on WA7BNM website: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

RAC Canada Day, DL DX RTTY, IARU HF Championship and WRTC 2018, NAQP RTTY, RSGB IOTA. Club Member Drew K3PA is partnering with N3AD in the WRTC Championship.

Coming this Fall, Ward Silver will speak about the history of the WRTC.

A brief open-forum discussion about Field Day 2018 was held. The KCDX Club was well represented with a good percentage of attendees indicating that they had participated.

#### Program

Russ, K0VXU, presented some data provided by Dave, W7FB, about the propagation perils that would have been encountered by hams in our area attempting to contact 3Y0Z had that expedition been successful.

#### Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, Bouvet Adventure

Glenn provided a very entertaining and informative presentation about the life threatening, "Successful Failure" of the early 2018 attempt at a DXpedition to Bouvet Island in the far South Atlantic Ocean.

They had many obstacles to their success, the two primary ones being the weather and the poor conditions/capabilities of their ship. As is well known by now, their ship lost power in one of two engines and almost lost the second one due to the heavy seas and they had to abort their mission, returning to Cape Town, South Africa, rather than returning to Chile where they began.

Other problems encountered with the ship included water tight compartments that weren't, noise, ventilation, floor and deck drains, waste water in the wrong place, radar failures, unsecured furniture, engine room vapor barrier, no hot water, no cold water, brown water, desalinator issue, excessive rolling, no door holds.....

54 deficiencies were identified

Also, the helicopter pilots didn't want to fly to the island, even during the few good weather breaks they had. In retrospect, Glenn said this unwillingness may have saved some lives.

#### Suggested Links

<https://www.bouvetdx.org/> (click on the pictorial highlights link at the bottom of their page for lots of photos)

<http://ey8mm.com/pictures/item/73-ey0r-video> A short video of the conditions on the ship. Glenn showed this video during his presentation. Sea Sickness alert.

Russ K0VXU and Glenn both recommended reading *South: The story of Shackleton's last expedition 1914 - 1917* which is one of the great books of exploration in the Antarctic.

#### Announcements

If you need a ride or you know of someone who needs a ride to our meetings let Russ know. We would like to make sure everyone who wishes to attend can do so.

The meeting was adjourned.

Charles Hett KCDX Club Secretary

## **CROWNE PLAZA ROOMS FOR DAYTON 2019!!**

*The KCDXC contract with Crowne Plaza has been completed for 2019! W0ZAP has volunteered to take over the job of Room Manager for the KCDXC. Rick will be working with AB0X this year to learn the details of the job. THANKS, Rick!*

*The cost for rooms for 2019 will remain the same as in the past at \$149 for a standard block of three nights over Hamvention weekend starting on Thursday, May 16, with check out on Sunday morning, May 19. Double rooms are available for club members with roommates or singles for one bed rooms. Contact W0ZAP at [rickp098@gmail.com](mailto:rickp098@gmail.com) , to make your room reservation for Hamvention 2019.*

*Contact [ab0x@kc.rr.com](mailto:ab0x@kc.rr.com) if you have any questions. As in the past we must prepay the first night's stay prior to the end of March 2019.*

## **K0LW & W0ZAP FIELD DAY ACTIVITY IN WYOMING**

### **Local Boys Make the Papers!**

Reprinted from the *Saratoga Sun*



By [Joshua Wood](#)

## Hamming it up

**National amateur radio event allows local enthusiasts to try their hand at ham radio.**



David Worthington scans the airwaves for other radio operators.

When one is standing on the shore of the Upper North Platte River, the sounds one expects to hear would be the songs of birds. On one warm summer weekend, June 23, a different sound joined the avian melodies. The arrhythmic beeps of morse code and the whitenoise of an amateur radio in search of other stations could be heard on the property of the Ryan Ranch. The ranch owned by Greg Ryan, who also owns Ryan Electronics, was playing host to the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day.

"What we do here, specifically, and what I do a lot when I go out and activate parks is you're taking a radio system with an off-the-grid power source and you're proving that you can actually use that as a viable method of communication with other folks," said Rick Parent, a longtime ham radio operator present at Ryan Ranch during the event.

Parent, who first received his amateur radio license in 1976, lives in Kansas but makes his way up to the mountains of Wyoming for the event. Parent isn't alone in the drive, though. Lee Ward, another longtime amateur radio operator, comes to the Cowboy State from Kansas City, Missouri as well.

Ward received his amateur radio license in 1962 while in high school.

"In high school, found a high school electronics teacher at a vocational high school in Chicago who was teaching Morse code, which used to be a requirement, and the theory necessary to get the license," said Ward. "He licensed a lot of kids."

Ward was drafted into the United States Army at the age of 22 and while in Germany was approached by a warrant officer who asked if he had his German ham radio license. Ward informed the officer that he didn't. The warrant officer rectified that. While he was in

a nuclear missile unit at the time, Ward was pulled out of the unit for his last six months of enlistment to help run the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS).

"Health and welfare was more important than shooting a nuke," Ward said.

Parent played a similar role while in the United States Navy. The Navy no longer operates on MARS and instead uses a different amateur system. The only difference, according to both Ward and Parent, are the frequencies on which both systems operate. Parent was stationed on a destroyer and had stopped in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba when he and other radio operators showed the captain of the ship what they could do with the amateur radio.

"We called the captain. He came in and we phone-patched him to his wife back in Charleston, S.C. and when he saw that he was able to talk to his wife whenever at night back in South Carolina he said 'That's it. How much money do you want?' He got into the ship's welfare and recreation fund and built a station on the ship," said Parent.

Parent and Ward now use their experience to help others who are interested in getting involved in amateur radio. While one radio was set-up in a converted enclosed trailer, a digital Morse code radio sat on the table between Parent and Ward and was hooked up to something resembling a brick - and was nearly as heavy as one - but was in fact a lithium iron phosphate battery. This type of battery is more reliable and stable than the standard lithium ion batteries used in cell phones and other equipment.

"You can short it, it doesn't burn. You can overload it, it doesn't burn. You can burn it, it doesn't burn," said Ward.

Ryan may have brought both Parent and Ward to Wyoming, but how did they know Ryan?

"I would like to say it was all ham radio, but it really wasn't. There was a guy in town, his uncle had lived here and he grew up here, named Jim Johnson, had a home down in Encampment and he was in Kansas City as a chief engineer for the big paging company Mobile Phone. I knew Jim from Mobile Phone Paging because I was in the two-way radio business. I came up here with Jim one time when he donated a police car to Encampment Police Department. While we were here, I met Greg (Ryan)," Ward said.

According to Ward, after a subsequent visit to the Valley, he and Ryan became friends and Ward comes up at least twice a year.

"It's kind of a funny thing, the relationship that you develop in the hobby. I just recently met Greg, although I've known him for a couple years because I operate a station that is down the hill on his property from my house in Overland Park over the internet," said Parent.

Ryan was curious about the technology and gave Parent permission to follow through with the plan of remote station operation.



Joshua Wood

Mike Parent, far left, talks with a fellow radio operator on Saturday, June 23.

"Even up here, where you don't have Google Fiber, it's still very adequate," Parent said.

While Ryan was at the event, there was one person that both Parent and Ward seemed to miss. Former Ryan Electronics employee and Valley resident, Robert Streeter.

"I was really disappointed when Rob (Streeter) went off to Antarctica and didn't upgrade his license to general so he could operate the HF station down there and become a big-deal person to talk to from all over the world," Ward said.

"From any place on the planet, Antarctica is a big deal to talk to," added Parent.

According to Saratoga resident Andy Van Tol, who took part in the ARRL Field Day, over 100 contacts were made on the weekend of June 23. Anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio or about ARRL Field Day can go to [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).





Braveheart will provide transportation to and from Ducie Island for the VP6D Team. Plans are progressing well for the DXpedition. More info as the Dxpedition nears.

#### OTHER DX:

3DA0, KINGDOM OF ESWATINI (Press Release by K5GS)[edited]. 3DA0AO eSwatini by Pista, HA5AO -- Pista HA5AO will arrive eSwatini (Swaziland) on September 14th, late afternoon. He plans to operate during his free time between September 16-28th, from the Mountain Inn Resort at Mbabane. He received the 3DA0AO license and an LotW certificate.

Pista will operate 80-10 meters using a Hustler 6 BTV vertical antenna with 17 and 12 meter add-on elements, CW, RTTY and FT8. He is bringing an Elecraft K3 with the KPA 500 amplifier. Logsearch will be available on HA5AO.com. His plans include testing a new feature of the PDXG QSL Management Platform, the uploading of QSOs in real time.

While in-country he will travel to rural areas visiting villages, schools and orphanages to deliver school supplies to orphaned children. He is interested in making a long term donation agreement to pay school fees for several orphaned children. Pista is paying all expenses from personal funds. However he would appreciate donations

through his website. Any donations received will be used only for humanitarian purposes. You may see Pista's previous humanitarian projects at HA5AO.com

4S, SRI LANKA. Dariusz, SP9DLM, will be active as 4S7DMG from Kalkudah (WW Loc. NJ07SW), Sri Lanka (AS-003) between August 6-14th. Activity will be on 40/20/15/10 meters. QSL via his home callsign.

A2, BOTSWANA (Postponed). Andre, NJ0F, who was expected to be active as A25A from Lotsane Lodge, Tuli Block, between July 13-20th, has postponed his operation. No reason was provided.

KH1/KH7Z BAKER ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS. It was announced: The Baker Island team will upload a "clean log" and turn on ClubLog's OQRS at 0000 UTC on July 16th. "All people submitting donations prior to this time will receive an automatic LoTW upload without further action".

KH2, GUAM. Howard, WQ6B, will be active as KH2/WQ6B from Guam between July 20-24th. Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB and FT8. QSL via WQ6B, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

P4, ARUBA. Rick, N1DC, will be active as P4/N1DC from Aruba (SA-036) between July 14-26th. Activity will be QRP on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

Thanks to the Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin!

#### **KH1 QSOS ARE IN LOTW SYSTEM**

I sent a small donation last week to the KH1 operation and yesterday my qso's showed up on LOTW with the ARRL. Turned out to be one of the fastest confirmations I have ever gotten. Only needed 1 slot, but worth the no hassle QSL thru LOTW!-AB0X

## **ARRL MIDWEST DIVISION CONVENTION: COMING SOON!**

### ***ARRL Midwest Division Newsletter Special Edition 2018***

***2018 ARRL Midwest Division Convention The First Annual Midwest STEM TechFest Linn County Fairgrounds Just outside Cedar Rapids, Iowa August 4 & 5, 2018***

***The Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club in Cedar Rapids, Iowa is delighted to announce that we are hosting the 2018 American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Midwest Division Convention, August 4th & 5th,***

*2018 at the Linn County Fairgrounds, 201 Central City Rd, Central City, Iowa. The grounds occupy a 39 acre site along with six acres of free parking, so there will be plenty of room for convention activities.*

*Please Use <https://arrlmidwestconvention.org/> to order and pay your convention fees.*

*Forwarded by WA0WOF:*

## **Ham radio technology used in Thailand cave rescue**

UK radio amateur John Hey G3TDZ (SK) designed the special low frequency radio equipment, the Heyphone, used in the recent cave rescue in Thailand

On Facebook Phil Karn KA9Q posted:

*Naturally I got interested in the technical aspects of the cave rescue in Thailand, particularly communications.*

*They used the "Heyphone", a voice radio designed by a UK radio ham, John Hey, G3TDZ, as open-source hardware specifically for cave rescues.*

*It uses upper (single) sideband voice on 87 kilohertz in the VLF (very Low frequency) band. (That's what it says -- 87 kHz is actually LF).*

*The "antenna" consists of two stakes driven into the ground about 20m apart. Enough of the current between them fringes outward to couple to another antenna up to a few hundred meters away (or down).*

*John Hey passed away in 2016 so he didn't get to see his work used here. But ham radio should get some of the credit.*

Phil Karn KA9Q

<https://facebook.com/phil.karn.98/posts/10155276627256486>  
<https://twitter.com/ka9q>

John Hey G3TDZ Heyphone Cave Rescue Communication System  
<http://bcra.org.uk/creg/heyphone/>

Al Williams WD5GNR has written an article on Hackaday about the cave equipment  
<https://hackaday.com/2018/07/11/ham-designed-gear-used-in-thailand-cave-rescue/>

<http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2018/july/ham-radio-technology-used-in-thailand-cave-rescue.htm>

**SUPPORTERS OF THE KANSAS CITY DX CLUB  
KEEPING THE KCDXC DAYTON TRADITION ALIVE!**



**K3ZN KEYS**

